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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kino et al
Serial No.: 09/665,617
Filed: September 19, 2000
For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING AMINO ACIDS BY FERMENTATION
Group: 1632
Examiner: Not yet assigned.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 18, 2000

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et. seq., the applicants submit copies of the documents mentioned in the specification of the above-identified application. The documents are identified on the attached form PTO-1449 and/or in any accompanying Statement of Relevance.

To the extent available, copies of the patents and or other documents cited are enclosed. If available and to the extent needed, English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references are also enclosed. In particular, English abstracts are provided for Japanese published patent applications for which there is not an U.S. equivalent.

The discussion of these documents in the specification.

By this submission, applicants do not assert that a search of the prior art was made or that the patents and documents cited constitute all relevant prior art. The references

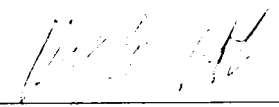
cited constitute only that information now known to the applicants which, in the reasonable opinion of the applicants, is relevant to the claimed invention. The Examiner is requested to consider these documents, and to indicate such in any forthcoming office action.

Kindly charge any additional fees due, or credit overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (File No. 506.39084X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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